

AMBAG

Board of Directors Meeting

May 13, 2026



Item #1: Call To Order



Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance



Item #3: “Just” Cause Attendance

Recommended Action: Information



Item #4: Roll Call



Item #5: Oral Communications from the Public on Items Not on the Agenda

**(A maximum of two minutes on any
subject not on the agenda)**

Item #6: Oral Communications from the Board on Items Not on the Agenda



Item #7A: Executive/Finance Committee

Recommended Action: Information



Item #7B: Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting

Recommended Action: Direct

Item #8: Executive Director's Report

Recommended Action: Information



Item #9: Consent Agenda (Items #9A – 9F)

Recommended Action: Approve



Item #10: Items Removed from Consent Calendar for Discussion and Possible Action



Item #11A: AB2561: Public Hearing on Job Vacancies and Recruitment and Retention Efforts

Recommended Action: Public Hearing



AB 2561: Public Hearing on Job Vacancies and Recruitment and Retention Efforts

**Board of Directors Meeting
May 13, 2026**

Jessica Agee, Director of Finance and Administration



Background

- On September 22, 2024, Governor Newsom signed AB 2561 into law to amend the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act and create a new obligation for public agencies to publicly address the status of their vacancies.
- As a basis for the new requirements, the California Legislature determined that vacancies are widespread and can be a significant problem in the public sector. The bill was enacted into law and is codified in Government Code section 3502.3.

Requirements

- At least once each fiscal year, at a public hearing before the agency's governing board, the agency shall present information regarding the status of vacancies and recruitment and retention efforts and identify any necessary changes to policies, procedures, and recruitment activities that may lead to obstacles in the hiring process.

Requirements (cont.)

The following requirements do not apply to AMBAG as there are no bargaining units:

- Allow the recognized employee organization for each bargaining unit to make presentations during the public hearing concerning vacancies and recruitment and retention efforts.
- If vacancies within a single bargaining unit meet or exceed 20% of authorized full-time positions in that bargaining unit, the agency must provide additional information during the public hearing.

2025 AMBAG Data

- Budgeted positions – 16
- Hires – 2
- Open positions – 1 (Planner)
- Retention – 94%
- Time to Hire – 5 days
- Vacancy rate – 6%

Recruitment and Retention Challenges

- Competition with nearby employers, including the private sector, AMBAG operates in a high cost of living region
- AMBAG will continue to monitor market compensation. The current recruitment strategy is supported by a retention rate of 94% as of December 31, 2025.

Recommendation

- The Board of Directors is asked to hold a public hearing to receive input on the status of AMBAG vacancies and recruitment and retention efforts.

Questions?



Item #11B: Draft FY 2026-27 Monterey Bay Region Overall Work Program (OWP) and Budget

Recommended Action: Approve



Draft 2026-27 Monterey Bay Region Overall Work Program (OWP) and Budget

Board of Directors Meeting
May 13, 2026

Bhupendra Patel, Ph.D. Director of Modeling
Jessica Agee, Director of Finance and Administration



FY 2026-27 Overall Work Program Priorities

- Federally required document to receive federal funds
- Covers all AMBAG work programs and activities
- Used as a project management tool by staff
- Implements federal and AMBAG work program priorities
 1. Performance Base Planning
 2. Coordination with Federal Land Management Agency (FLMA)
 3. Coordination with Transit Operators
 4. Modeling and Research
 5. Planning and Forecasts
 6. Sustainable Development Strategies
 7. Collaborative Planning and Implementation

FY 2026-27 OWP Highlights

- Continue monitoring FY 2026-27 OWP and development of the FY 2027-28 OWP & Budget
- Implementation of the 2050 MTP/SCS
- Enhancements of land use model, land development monitoring tool, GIS data collection, analysis, and applications
- Upgrading the AMBAG Activity Based Model (ABM) for the next round of plan update
- Implementation and enhancement of the Central California Regional Energy Network (CCR REN)
- Completion of Monterey Bay Electric Vehicle Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Framework study
- Continuation of the Pajaro River Bridge Resilient Design Study
- Continuing monitoring and reporting Transportation Performance Management (TPM)
- Continue coordination for Sustainable Communities Planning and implementation
- Complete Streets, highway and transit corridor planning, and management studies

FY 2026-27 OWP and Budget Timeline

- ✓ OWP Kickoff meeting October 21, 2025
- ✓ Development of Draft FY 2026-27 OWP & Budget Dec 2025 – Feb 2026
- ✓ Draft OWP review & comments by FHWA / FTA / Caltrans March 2026
- ✓ Draft OWP & Budget presentation to AMBAG Board March 11, 2026
- **Board Adoption of FY 2026-27 OWP & Budget** **May 13, 2026**
- Expected State Approval Date May 31, 2026
- Expected Federal Approval Date June 30, 2026

AMBAG Draft FY 2026-27 Budget



Draft FY 2026-27 Funding Highlights

- Balanced budget, pursuant to AMBAG By-Laws
- Member dues updated
- Revenue by source:
 - Federal – \$2,426,856
 - State – \$3,952,198
 - Local – \$1,651,200
 - Total – \$8,030,253

Draft FY 2026-27 Expenditure Highlights

- Maintaining current year staff level
- Continuation of current grant funded projects
- General fund expenditures includes costs that are not eligible for Federal reimbursement:
 - Interest and fees
 - Cash match to meet federal/state grant requirements
- Use of toll credits to match federal funds

Recommendation

- Approve the Draft FY 2026-27 Monterey Bay Region OWP and Budget by adopting resolution 2026-4 (Attachment 1) and authorize staff to submit the Draft FY 2026-27 OWP to Caltrans and federal agencies for their approval;
- Certify AMBAG's adherence to the metropolitan transportation planning process within the region and authorize Executive Director to sign the certifications and forms (Attachment 2-5); and;
- Authorize AMBAG staff to execute OWP Agreements to release funds for metropolitan transportation planning use.

Questions/Comments?

Item #12: Adjournment

Next meeting: June 10, 2026

